

Editorial Department.

AT the Cooper Institute meeting in behalf of the insane, last December, among other resolutions one was adopted recommending the organization of a National Association for the protection of the insane. The permanent committee appointed at that meeting took the matter in hand, and on May 10th issued a circular announcing that, by the invitation of Gen. Brinkerhoff, President of the Conference of Charities and Correction, those interested in this matter would meet with the Conference at its session in Cleveland, in June, and that a place would be reserved on the programme for them. At the said meeting the organization was formed, a constitution and by-laws adopted, and several papers of value were read by Drs. Shaw, Seguin, Beard, and others. The following are stated to be the Society's methods for attaining the end expressed in its name, "The National Association for the Protection of the Insane and the Prevention of Insanity:"

"First. By the encouragement of special and thorough clinical and pathological observations by the medical profession generally, as well as those connected with asylums.

"Second. By enlightening public sentiment as to the nature of the malady, the importance of early treatment, improved methods of management and treatment at home and abroad.

"Third. By recommending an enlightened State policy, which, while neglecting no one of its insane population, shall so administer relief and protection as not to lay unnecessary or undue burdens upon the tax-payers.

"Fourth. By holding public meetings wherever needed, to stimulate legislation that will secure efficient State supervision of all public institutions for the care of the insane, as a mutual safeguard for the protection of society—the patients, as well as those who have them in charge.

"Fifth. To further the perfection of laws relating to the treatment of the insane, and their rights while patients in the asylum.

had been the assistant of Prof. Schiff for a time, until his return to his home in Philadelphia in 1877. But, after all, he found the European abode more attractive, and soon retraced his steps to Geneva, where he has staid since as assistant in the physiological laboratory. While there he made good use of his time. A long list of articles in various physiological publications is the best token of his diligence, while the high merit of his researches needs no comment.

But all hopes were in vain. That dire scourge, phthisis, counted him also among its victims. But, while his life has been short, it has not been spent uselessly. His name will be remembered kindly by all who believe in the search after truth.

H. GRADLE.

THE late meeting at New York of the American Neurological Association was one of much interest. The period given to its work was busily occupied in the reading of papers above the average in interest, and to suggestive discussions. But we would refer the reader to the admirable report of the proceedings published in the present number. It is quite evident that there is room for the society, and that it has made good its title to a place among the really working medical associations in our land.

We would call special attention to the letter of Dr. Hammond to the society, offering a prize of five hundred dollars for the best essay, which is the outcome of original work, on the functions of the optic thalamus; and also to the resolutions adopted by the society in reference to the care of the insane in the United States.

The next meeting is to be held in the city of New York, and we earnestly hope it may be well attended.